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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/505,269

08/20/2004

Teunis Hemanus Uittenbogaard

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10/25/2005

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

P.O. BOX 3001

BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HIEP

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2816

DATE MAILED: 10/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/505,269

Applicant(s)UITTENBOGAARD, TEUNIS
HEMANUS**Examiner**

Hiep Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Correction and /or clarification is required.

Regarding claim 1, the recitation “ a first and a second transistor of normally-on type” on line 4 is indefinite because it is misdescriptive. A transistor, itself, cannot be ON unless it is turned on by a signal. Thus, there is no “normally-on type” transistor. According to figure 1 of the present application, transistors (100) and (102) have gates connected to line (107). It is not clear what is the potential of line (107) that can normally turn transistors (100) and (102) on. The recitation “ a signal... comprising a diode” is indefinite because it is misdescriptive. An electronic signal cannot be an electronic component such as a diode. The recitation “DC-coupled” on lines 8, 10 is indefinite because it is not clear what “DC-coupled” is meant by. The recitation “the diode being DC-coupled to the internal node so that a DC potential at a terminal of the diode, which controls on/off switching of the diode, is determined by a potential of the internal node in opposition to on/off switching of the channels” is indefinite because it is not clear what it is meant by. Figure 1 of the present application shows that the on/off of transistors (100) and (102) is determined by the potentials applied to the anode of diode (104) and the potential of line (107) not the potential at the internal node (101) as recited. The same rationale is applied to claim 3.

Regarding claims 2 and 4, the recitation “ the diode being part of a DC current path from the control output to the internal node so that the diode is forward-biased when a control voltage that makes the main current channels non-conductive is applied from the control output to the main current channels via the diode” is indefinite because it is not clear. Transistors (100) and (102) are P-channel transistors. They are non-conductive when the potentials at the gates of these transistors i.e., the potential of the common conductor (107),

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are lower than the potential at the internal node (101). Even when the diode is forward-biased, if the potential applied to the common conductor (107) is higher than the potential at node (101), transistors (100) and (102) are conductive. Clear explanation is required.

Conclusion

In view of the significant 112, 2nd paragraph indefiniteness issues noted above, no prior art could be applied by the examiner at this time since the scope and meaning of the claims cannot be determined. This is not an indication of allowance.

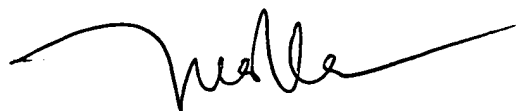
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hiep Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1752. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hiep Nguyen

10-21-05



TUANT LAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER